



Sri (2007)  
Liner Notes

Shantala Music

[www.shantalamusic.com](http://www.shantalamusic.com)

## Notes

We never in our wildest dreams imagined we'd fall so head-over-heels in love with the practice of kirtan, which is the devotional chanting we are so blessed to be doing with all of you. As we journey ever more deeply into the heart of devotion, we uncover the beauty of our own hearts ... and are touched by thousands of your hearts.

Sri is the divine beauty of the universe, which is unveiled in this practice of love we call kirtan. It is also a name for the sacred feminine presence, known as the Goddess in her many forms and in Hebrew as l'Sh'china. We bow deeply into this presence in honor and gratitude.

## Tracks

1. Holy Ma 8:44
2. Sri Ram Jaya Ram 13:15
3. Om Namah Shivaya 10:35
4. Hineni 10:23
5. Om Namō Bhagavate- Invocation 3:51
6. Om Namō Bhagavate/Because the One I Love 13:34
7. Baba Hanuman 12:15

## Lyrics

### Track 1 – “Holy Ma”

Holy Ma

Kali Ma

Jaya Jagadambe

*Everything is holy now*

–English lyrics and music composed by Peter Mayer

[www.petermayer.net](http://www.petermayer.net)

### Track 2 – “Sri Ram Jaya Ram”

Om Sri Ram Jaya Ram Jaya Jaya Ram

Sita Ram Sita Ram

Sita Ram Ram Ram

Sita Ram Sita Ram

Jaya Jaya Hanuman

### **Track 3 – “Om Namah Shivayah”**

Om Namah Shivaya

Shivaya Namah Om

Om Shiva

*I honor the God within myself and all things*

–Translation by Sally Kempton

### **Track 4 – “Hineni”**

Hineni

Osah et atzmi

Merkava l'Sh'china

Merkava l'Sh'china

*Here I am, transforming myself into a chariot for the divine presence*

–Composed by Rabbi Shefa Gold

[www.rabbishefagold.com](http://www.rabbishefagold.com)

### **Track 6 – “Om Namo Bhagavate/Because the One I Love”**

Om Namo Bhagavate

Vasudevaya

*Because the one I love lives inside of you*

*I lean as close to you as I can*

*I bow to the Lord who lives in the hearts of all*

–English lyrics and melody by Gina Salá

[www.ginasala.com](http://www.ginasala.com)

### **Track 7 – “Baba Hanuman”**

1. Namó, Namó (repeat)

Anjani Nandanaya

Chorus: Jaya Siya Ram Jaya Jaya Hanuman

2. Jaya Bajarangabali Baba Hanuman

Jaya Bajarangabali Jaya Hanuman

Sankata Mochan Kripa Nidhan

Sankata Mochan Kripa Nidhan

Chorus: Jaya Siya Ram Jaya Jaya Hanuman

3. Jay Jay Jay Hanuman Gosae  
Kripa Karahu Gurudeva Ki Nae  
Sankata Mochan Kripa Nidhan  
Lala Langotta Lala Nishan

Chorus: Hare Rama Rama Ram Sita Rama Rama Ram

English Translation:

*I bow, I bow again and again to Anjani's son, Hanuman.*

*Victory to Sita and Ram, Victory to Hanuman  
Victory over the darkness of suffering...*

*Victory to the one with the body of a thunderbolt  
My Baba, Hanuman.*

*You are home of all Grace.  
Destroy all my problems, calamities, and sufferings.*

*Hail My Lord Hanuman.*

*You are my Guru, bestow your Grace on me.*

*You are the destroyer of Suffering, the abode of Grace.*

*You wear a red langotta and carry a red flag.*

-Composed and translated by Krishna Das  
[www.krishnadas.com](http://www.krishnadas.com)

### **With Gratitude**

There are special moments in life when the reason and context for all that we have experienced becomes crystal clear – an epiphany in which we realize that all of our blessings and challenges have led us inevitably to this path in this instant. Such was our experience over and over again as this recording took shape. We are deeply grateful for the honor of sharing kirtans with so many wonderful friends around the world.

Thanks to all of the incredible musicians who have created this CD with us. We offer our heartfelt thanks to our families and to John Friend, Liz Fogelson, Lisa Beth Robinson, Annette Orban, Linda Coghill, Jacqueline Westhead, Dean Baskerville,

Gwenn Cody, Erin Lommen, Karen Berg-Smith, Vijay & Anne Shankar, Mirabai Devi, Sally Kempton and Steven Hayes. Special thanks to Rabbi Shefa Gold, Peter Mayer, Gina Salá, and Krishna Das for generously allowing us to record their songs. Deepest thanks to Benjy's teachers, Ali Akbar Khan and Zakir Hussain, whose inspiring guidance through the beautiful ocean of Hindustani classical music is a gift beyond measure.

Heather thanks Benjy for the sweetness and steadiness of his love and for being willing to walk this path together. Benjy commits his heart and unending love to Heather, the life partner of his dreams, whose tremendous talents and sweet love remind him always of the Goddess.

## **Credits**

Benjy Wertheimer: Voice, esraj, tabla, tabla tarang, djembe, conga, frame drum, percussion, keyboards, drum programming, and harmonium

Heather Wertheimer: Voice and guitar

Beth Noelle: Harmony vocals on Sri Ram Jaya Ram and chorus vocals

David Trasoff: Sarod

Gina Salá: Solo vocals on Om Namah Shivaya and Om Namo Bhagavate; chorus vocals & harmonies

Jami Sieber: Cello, electric cello, vocals

Jeff Leonard: Bass

Joe Jencks: Harmony vocals on Om Namo Bhagavate & Baba Hanuman; chorus vocals

John Friend: Kartols

Krishna Das: Vocals on Sri Ram Jaya Ram and Om Namo Bhagavate invocation

Leraine Horstmanshoff: Djeridoo, vocals

Manose: Bansuri bamboo flute on Hineni, Om Namo Bhagavate, and Holy Ma

Michael Mandrell: Guitar

Michael Stirling: Tamboura

Morgan Doctor: Udu and hang

Snatam Kaur: Harmony vocals on Hineni

Steve Gorn: Bansuri bamboo flute on Sri Ram Jaya Ram and Om Namah Shivaya

Chorus: Amy Ippoliti, Dari Lewis-Michael, Jim Walker, Justin Allison, Scott Noelle

Executive Producer: Benjy Wertheimer

Produced by Benjy and Heather Wertheimer

Recorded and engineered by Benjy Wertheimer

Mixed by Benjy Wertheimer and Dean Baskerville

Mastering by David Glasser at Airshow Mastering; Boulder, Colorado

Duplication by Riddle Press; Portland, OR

Front cover artwork by Linda Davis Coghill, [LindaDavisCoghill.com](http://LindaDavisCoghill.com)

Graphic design by Annette Orban, [OrbanRanch.com](http://OrbanRanch.com)

Photos of Benjy & Heather: Douglas Byers, [ByersPhotography.com](http://ByersPhotography.com)